Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 RSR-01 $/059~\mathrm{W}$

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P R 160932Z AUG 73 FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI TO CINCUSARPAC FT SHAFTER HI PRIORITY INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9508 CINCPAC CAMP SMITH HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, TW

SUBJECT: EMBASSY DISAGREEMENT WITH POLITICAL JUSTIFICATION OFFERED FOR HEADQUARTERS USARFT CONTINUATION.
REF: CDR USARFT TAIPEI MESSAGE 150206Z AUG 73

- 1. WHILE EMBASSY TAKES NO POSITION ON WHETHER HEADQUARTERS USARFT SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE TERMINATED, NEVERTHELESS EMBASSY DOES NOT CONCUR IN POLITICAL JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUATION STATED IN PARAS 12 THROUGH 15 OF REFERENCED MESSAGE.
- 2. SPECIFICALLY, EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE THAT
 TERMINATION OF HEADQUARTERS USARFT "WOULD BE VIEWED BY
 THE ROC AS A FURTHER DISSIPATION OF US RESOLVE AND A
 PRELUDE TO TOTAL WITHDRAWAL" AND
 THAT TERMINATION "CANNOT BUT BE REPLETE
 WITH REPRECUSSIONS THAT WOULD PREJUDICE THE US POSITION ON
 THIS ISLAND. "SIMILARLY, EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE
 THAT TERMINATION IS "TANTAMOUNT TO DEMEANING ROC ARMY" OR
 THAT IT WOULD "BE VIEWED AS AN ABROGATION OF US COMMITMENT." TERMINATION WOULD NOT LEAD TO "CHINESE
 ALIENATION" OR THE "DEMISE OF US INFLUENCE WITHIN THE ROC".
 FINALLY, EMBASSY DOES NOT AGREE THAT TERMINATION
 WOULD "PRECIPITATE GREATER VOLATILITY IN THE EXISTING
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POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT."

3. EMBASSY AGREES THAT OFFICERS OF US ARMY ON TAIWAN HAVE BEEN HIGHLY IMPORTANT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSE RELATIONS WITH ROC ARMED FORCES, BUT BELIEVES REFTEL GREATLY OVERSTATES ROLE OF HEADQUARTERS, USARFT, A VERY RECENTLY CREATED FACILITY, IN THAT PROCESS.

MOREOVER, ROC APPRECIATION OF INTEGRITY OF US COMMITMENTS HERE IS BASED ON FACTORS AND CONSIDERATIONS WHICH STAND QUITE APART FROM THAT HEADQUARTERS ACTIVITY. GLEYSTEEN

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TAGS: PFOR, MILI, TW

To: n/a

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